

A True and Perfect

# RELATION

Of the Great

# VICTORY

Obtained over the

# DUTCH

With an Account of the Ships that was taken and  
sunk in the said Engagement.

ALSO

The Names of their Men of War, their Commanders and  
Number of their Guns, that were appointed for a  
Convoy to their *SMYRNA* Fleet.


---

L O N D O N, Printed for C. I. 1672.

# RELATION

OF THE





*A True and Perfect Relation of the Great Victory  
obtained over the Dutch, with an Account  
of the Ships taken and sunk in the said Engage-  
ment; also the Names of their Men of War,  
their Commanders and number of their Guns  
that were appointed as a Convoy to their Smyrna  
Fleet.*

S I R,

**I** Have received yours from London bearing no date, which I impute to the too hasty expectation of News from our Port, concerning the late Engagement betwixt the Dutch *Smyrna* Fleet, and our Squadron of Men of War, which on the thirteenth of this Instant was Cruising off the Isle of *Wight*; to satisfie your curiosity take it as followeth; Upon Wednesday *March* the Thirteenth Sir *Robert Holmes* with a Squadron of five Ships, cruising about the Isle of *Wight* met with the Dutch *Smyrna* Fleet consisting

A 2

listing of above fifty Saile, convoyed by six men of  
 War, the names of the Ships in Sir Robert Holmes's  
 Squadron were first the *Saint Michael* commanded by  
 Sir Robert Holmes as Admiral; the second the *Reynolds*  
 commanded by the Count of D'Almeida as Vice-Admiral;  
 the third, the *Cambridge* commanded by Sir Freichervie  
 Holles as Rear-Admiral; the fourth, the *Glocester* com-  
 manded by Captain John Holmes Brother to Sir Robert  
 Holmes; the *Fairfax* commanded by Captain Bigge.  
 They about two a clock in the afternoon meeting  
 with the aforesaid *Smyrna* Fleet, shot to make them  
 strike and lower their Top-sails, which they refused  
 to do, upon which refusal, our Ships shot Ball through  
 and through them, upon which they lowered their  
 Top-sails, but yet refused to strike, upon which the  
 Fight began, the Dutch throwing over-board a great  
 many of their heaviest Goods to lighten them, twenty  
 of their Merchant-men carrying from twenty to forty  
 Guns apiece they made serviceable by sending men  
 aboard them in the night, so that there was as good as  
 twenty eight Men of War; notwithstanding this our  
 five Ships maintained a fight with them all night,  
 and run through and through them; at which time  
 there came to our assistance three Ships more, viz.  
 the *Fork* commanded by Captain Elliot, the *Diamond*  
 commanded by Captain Towlis, the *Success* com-  
 manded by Captain Watson, on Thursday Morning  
 early the Fight began again and continued all that  
 day, about noon Captain John Holmes boarded their  
 Rear-Admiral, its name was *S. Patrick* formerly an  
 English Ship, but our Seamen being too eager of the  
 prize

prise neglected to stop the leak she being much shattered and torn, in a short time she sunk down; about the Evening we took five of their richest Merchantmen and had undoubtedly taken the rest had not the night parted us, and a very fresh gale of wind rising in the night, gave then an opportunity of getting away: The whole Fight was managed with a great deal of Courage and gallantry on our part, considering the number of our Ships and the great number of the Dutch full man'd, for they had at least fifteen hundred Spanish Soldiers aboard that was going to the service of the *Neitherland*, it may be accounted as remarkable a Victory as ere was obtained in the British Seas.

The loss of the Dutch was very considerable, not only as to the loss of Men, but of Goods thrown over board, there was at least fifty Bayles of Silk taken up by our Vessels, who went off from this Port the next Day, besides what Goods sunk to the bottom. The five Ships taken are loaden chiefly with several sorts of rich Silks, and other Turkish Commodities: in their Reer-Admiral was sunk abundance of Spanish Silver, that was sent from Spain to pay of their Souldiers in the *Neitherlands*. They had killed in their Reer-Admiral before she sunk (by acknowledgement of some of the Ships Company) above one hundred and fifty persons, and very many wounded: And it is thought that they could not lose less than a thousand men in this Engagemen. Since this His Majesty hath been pleased to set forth His Declaration shewing the Reasons that doth induce him to wage War with that  
Ingrateful

Ingrateful and Insolent people the *Dutch*, who not above eighty years since was the *Poor Distressed States*, and were ready to lie down at our Feet for reliefe; these we succoured, which now, like a viperous Brood, would fly in the faces of those that gave them a Being. But their Ingratitude we do not doubt will be sufficiently scourged, and they be brought again to acknowledge their Keepers and Preservers of their Lives and Liberties, when His Majesties Royal Fleet united shall meet them, which will consist of above Eighty Saile, commanded by his Royal Highness in person; and may well claime the Title of the *Invincible NAVY*, for never such a Fleet for goodness of Ships, brave Commanders, and Valiant Seamen ever plowed the Seas; in the mean time we may leave them to provide for the safety of themselves and Country which never was in greater danger, they being besieged on all sides with Enemies, viz. with the French, the Prince Elector of *Cologne*, the Bishop of *Munster*, and the King of *Danemarks* Forces. So great a Crime is in Ingratitude, that Heaven will not let it go long unpunished. What further Newes comes to my hand you shall be sure to have an Account,

From your Friend,

*John Robinson.*



From the *Hague*, March 29. *S. N.*

*Worthy Implorer,*

**I**N obedience to your last commands I have sent you what News this place affords; to satisfie your curiosity you may read this following abstract.

Divers of our *Smyna Fleet* are arrived in *Zeland* and in the *Maes*, together with the Men of War, under whose Convoy they were, though extreemly torn and very much disabled; five of our Merchant men were taken by the English, two of which were the richest in the Fleet, laden with Silks and other rich Commodities, and were called the *Landshuys of Amsterdam*, and the *Vrede of Rotterdam*, besides our Rear-Admirall (being formerly an English Ship) was sunk also one of our Men of War, mounted with 44 Guns and 50 men called the *Little Holland*: Captain *de Haes* Admiral of this Fleet was killed in this Engagement, with many of our Men, and many more wounded, who have been since brought ashore at *Rotterdam* and other places. The men of War which

- served for Convoys to the said Fleet were the *Klusing*, Captain *Adrian de Haes*, carrying fifty Guns, and two hundred and fifty Men. The *Dort*, Captain
- *Thomas de Bois*, carrying forty six Guns and one hundred and seventy Men. The *Entrecht*, Captain *Cornelius Everfon*, carrying forty eight Guns and two hundred and twenty Men. The *Hollandia*, Captain *Thomas Nes*, carrying forty four Guns and one hundred and fifty Men. The *Delf*, Captain *Pourt*, carrying

ing.

ing thirty eight Guns and one hundred and forty five Men. The *Lion*, Captain *Lenny*, carryin thirty four Guns and one hundred and forty Men. The *Centaur*, Captain *Thomas Alderson*, carrying forty one Guns and one hundred and twenty Men. The *Frickland*, Captain *Jacob Anderson*, carrying thirty Guns and one hundred and ten Men.

The *Swanick*, a considerable Merchant man, mounted with thirty Guns, was so torn and disabled, that with much difficulty they have brought her into Port. Captain *du Bois* Vice-Admiral of this Fleet, hath lost his right Arm, and many of his men.

**FINIS.**